

Remarks

Claims 108-127 are pending, and claims 108-127 stand rejected. Claims 108-110 and 118-120 are amended in this Response. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request allowance of claims 108-127.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 108-127 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of U.S. Patent number 5,483,589 (Ishida) and U.S. Patent number 5,450,482 (Chen). The Applicants submit that claims 108-127 are novel and non-obvious in view of Ishida, Chen, and any combination thereof based on the following remarks.

(A) Claim 108 describes *"a plurality of connection systems ... receive a control message that includes an identifier for routing the call, interwork the user communications based on the identifier in the control message, and transmit the user communications that include the identifier for routing the call"*. On page 3 of the Office action, the Examiner states that Ishida teaches "interworking" the user communications. The Applicants respectfully disagree. For his support, the Examiner cites column 2, lines 45-53 in Ishida. (See Office action, page 3). This section discusses deciding how to route a call based on what the destination country allows. This section in no way, inherently or otherwise, teaches interworking user communications or controlling the point of interworking as in claim 108. Further, the Examiner cites another section of Ishida, column 10, lines 42-64, in support of interworking. (See Office action, page 3). This section discusses different types of communications, such as voice or fax. This section does not teach interworking user communications or controlling the point of interworking as in claim 108. For instance, this section does not teach interworking user communications between TDM and ATM. A fax call in Ishida will remain a fax call from origination to destination. The fax call is not "interworked" to a voice call. Also, a call is not "interworked" between connection systems as suggested by the Examiner. A call is connected, routed, or switched between connection systems, not interworked. The Examiner is using the term improperly. Therefore, Ishida does not teach the connection systems as described in claim 108.

Chen also does not teach the connection systems of claim 108.

(B) Claim 108 describes *"a call processing control system ... configured to receive call processing data from the signaling processors, process the call processing data to generate updated call processing tables, and transmit the updated call processing tables to the signaling processors to remotely control call processing."* The Examiner admits that Ishida does not teach updating call processing tables, so Ishida will not be discussed for this limitation. The Examiner suggests that Chen teaches the call processing control system as described in claim 108. The Applicants disagree.

Chen describes a way to avoid call blocking by having switches communicate with one another as to their availability. If a switch becomes congested, then the switch contacts the other switches and indicates its congested status. The other switches then know to avoid routing calls through or to the congested switch.

Chen is different than claim 108 in that Chen does not teach a centralized system that receives data from each of the signaling processors, processes the data, and then transmits updated call processing tables to the signaling processors as in claim 108. In Chen, if a switch becomes congested, it transmits a status-change message to the other switches. Responsive to the status-change message, a receiving switch updates a status database that indicates the status of other switches.

The congested switch does not receive an updated call processing table back from the other switches. The congested switch just transmits the status-change message and assumes that the other switches received the message and acted properly. In other words, the congested switch broadcasts a message to the other switches, but does not receive an updated call processing table back from the other switches. The other switches do not transmit an updated call processing table back to the congested switch. The other switches just update their status database responsive to the status-change message.

The call processing control system of claim 108 operates differently than Chen. The call processing control system receives call processing data from each of the signaling processors. The call processing control system processes the call processing data to generate updated call processing tables. The call processing control system then transmits the updated call processing tables to the signaling processors. This allows the call processing control system to remotely control call processing.

One skilled in the art will surely recognize the difference between Chen and claim 108. To reiterate, claim 108 describes collecting data on call processing, processing the data to update call processing tables, and then transmitting the updated call processing tables to the signaling processors. Chen describes transmitting status-change messages from one switch to other switches. Chen also describes receiving a status-change message into a switch from other switches, and updating a status database in the switch responsive to the status-change message. Chen does not describe a system that receives data from multiple signaling processors and transmits updated call processing tables back to the signaling processors.

Therefore, neither Ishida nor Chen teach the call processing control system as claimed in claim 108.

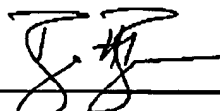
Conclusion

Based on the above remarks, the Applicants submit that claim 108 is novel and non-obvious in view of Ishida, Chen, and any combination therewith. Claim 118 is novel and non-obvious for similar reasons. The dependent claims are novel and non-obvious as being dependent on one of claims 108 or 118. There may be additional reasons in support of patentability, but such reasons are omitted in the interests of brevity. Because Ishida, Johnson, and the combination thereof do not teach that which is claimed in independent claims 108 and 118, the Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 108-127. Any fees in addition to those submitted may be charged to deposit account 21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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